

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 1, 7, 9 and 15 are amended herein.

103 Rejections

In the Office Action mailed October 29, 2003, on the parent of the present application, Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Singhal et al. ("Singhal;" US Patent No. 6,633,761) in view of Schuster et al. ("Schuster;" US Patent No. 6,577,622). The Applicant has reviewed the cited references and respectfully submits that the present invention as recited by Claims 1-16 is not shown or suggested by Singhal and Schuster, alone or in combination.

Independent Claims 1 and 9 each recite that a service name for a software application is provided by a virtual serial port driver. Applicant respectfully submits that Singhal and Schuster, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest a virtual serial port driver that provides a service name for a software application. Singhal describes a registry on a server that includes information about devices ("HMPs") that are registered with the server. The registry information includes information about the types of devices and where they are physically located. However, Singhal does not show or suggest providing a service name for a software application, and in particular Singhal does not show or suggest a service name for a software application that is provided by a virtual serial port driver. Schuster does not overcome the shortcomings of Singhal.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 1 and 9, and Claims 2-8 and 10-16 dependent on Claims 1 and 9, respectively, are not

shown or suggested by Singhal and Schuster, alone or in combination, and that the rejection of Claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Conclusions

In light of the above remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejected claims.

Based on the arguments presented above, the Applicant respectfully asserts that Claims 1-16 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, the Applicant respectfully solicits allowance of these claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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